



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

Contact: Kevin Kelly
FY-03-72

Phone: (573) 751-9300

Governor Office Building, Suite 900

PSC TO HOLD LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING IN LACLEDE CATCH-UP/KEEP-UP PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Jefferson City (November 8, 2002)---The Missouri Public Service Commission will hold a local public hearing in **St. Louis** on **November 18, 2002**, to receive customer comment on Laclede Gas Company's Catch-Up/Keep-Up Program proposal.

The local public hearing will be held in Room 116 of the Wainwright State Office Building, 111 North Seventh Street, in St. Louis. The PSC Staff will be available from 11:45 a.m. until noon to answer any questions customers may have as well as provide information on the local public hearing process. The Commission will begin receiving customer comment at 12:00 p.m. The local public hearing will continue until all those present have had an opportunity to testify, but will need to end by 2:00 p.m.

The Wainwright State Office Building is a facility that meets accessibility standards required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. Anyone who needs additional accommodations to participate in the local public hearing should call the Missouri Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or 1-800-829-7541 (TDD) prior to the hearing.

According to Laclede Gas Company, the Catch-Up/Keep-Up program is designed to assist eligible, low-income customers, through financial assistance, conservation, and education in managing their energy bills in a manner that will eliminate their arrearages for natural gas service over time, ensure their continued access to natural gas service under manageable terms, and ultimately reduce the level of uncollectibles experienced by the company. Funding for the proposed program would come through the partial allocation of pipeline discounts to low-income assistance programs, that currently go to all customers.

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